GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2767
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2001
STATUS OF PORTERS
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of licenced railway porters in the country;

(b) whether a proposal is under consideration of the Government to accord the status of fourth class employees to the railway porters;

(c) whether the facility of waiting halls are being provided to the porters on all the small and big stations;

(d) whether they have been provided medical facilities and arrangements for providing education facilities for their children in railway schools also;

(e) whether only "kurtas" have been provided to the Railway porters as against uniform instead of trousers; and

(f) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in regard to according fourth class employees, status to the railway porters and also to extend facilities such as waiting hall, medical, education and uniform etc. to them?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) The total number of licenced porters on Indian Railways is 39,103.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f) Resting facilities/sheds have been provided to the licenced porters at the major stations and at the stations where these facilities are not provided licenced porters are allowed to use waiting halls, lavatories and bathing facilities available at the stations. The licenced porters, their spouses and depended children can avail of the outdoor medical facilities in the railway hospitals and the health units. The children of licenced porters are admitted in railway schools subject to availability of seats after admitting the children/wards of railway employees. Two red shirts are supplied to the licenced porters every year as uniform and one woollen shirt is also given to them once in two years in lieu of one red shirt.